AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 1, as follows:

To provide the desired high surface area of the antimicrobial agent, the flock fibers are carefully selected and applied to the substrate/carrier sheet. Preferably, at least most, and even more preferably at least about 75%, and even more preferably all, of the flock fibers have a preferred denier of no more than about 5, more preferably no more than about 3, and even more preferably no more than about 2, with a range of from about 1.5 to about 3.5 being typical and ~~have~~ having a titre from about 0.5 to about 20 Dtex (from about 0.5 to about 20 x 10^{-7} Kg/m) and even more preferably from about 0.9 Dtex to about 6 Dtex. The length of at least most, and typically at least about 75%, of the fibers is preferably no more than about 4 mm, more preferably no more than about 2 mm, and even more preferably no more than about 1 mm, with a range of from about 0.3 to about 3.5 mm being typical. The fiber placement density relative to the surface area of the upper surface 1116 of the substrate (on which the flock is deposited) is preferably about at least about 50% fibers/in^2, even more preferably at least about 60% fibers/ in^2, and even more preferably at least about 70% fibers/in^2 of the surface area of the substrate surface 1116. The number of individual fibers per unit of surface area of the substrate surface 1116 (on which the flock is applied) is preferably at least about 50,000 fibers/in^2, even more preferably at least about 75,000 fibers/in^2, and even more preferably at least about 100,000 fibers/in^2 of surface area of the substrate surface 1116. As will be appreciated, a fiber placement density of 70% equates to 1,683,401 fibers/in^2 of the surface area of the substrate surface 1116, and a placement density of 60% equates to a 1,442,915 fibers/in^2 of the surface area of the substrate surface 1116.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 19, as follows:

The above parameters can yield a very high exposed fiber surface area for each unit area of substrate surface 1116. Typically, the total external surface area of the fibers per unit area (in^2) per unit area of the surface 1116 is at least about 40. In some applications, the total external surface area of the fibers per unit area can be at least about 100,000 in^2, more typically at least about 250,000 in^2, and even more typically at least about 200,000 in^2, with from about 175,000 to about 500,000 in^2 being a typical range. When compared to an antimicrobial agent applied to a flat, planar surface of the same unit area, the percent increase in surface area (fiber versus film) is typically at least about 100,000%, more typically at least about 150,000%, and even more typically at least about 200,000%.